



STATE OF RHODE ISLAND AND PROVIDENCE PLANTATIONS

Department of Behavioral Healthcare, Developmental Disabilities and Hospitals
OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR

Press Release

Media Contact:

Deb Varga, 401-462-0192
dvarga@bhddh.ri.gov

For Immediate Release

Rhode Island Department of Behavioral Healthcare, Developmental Disabilities and Hospitals Receives Recovery Month Event Award from the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration
Award recognizes efforts to increase awareness of National Recovery Month in 2010

Cranston, RI, July, 2011 – The Rhode Island Department of Behavioral Healthcare, Developmental Disabilities and Hospitals (BHDDH), in conjunction with the Rhode Island Recovery Month Coalition, was selected to receive the 2010 Recovery Month Annual Event Award. Craig Stenning, Director of BHDDH, will accept the award on Thursday, September 8 in Washington, DC. It is given in recognition of exceptional efforts to expand the breadth and reach of National Recovery Month in 2010.

“Rhode Island was one of the first states to expand the focus of National Recovery Month to include individuals with mental health issues and people with developmental disabilities”, says Director Stenning. Our annual rally provides an opportunity for us to celebrate those who are in recovery and to illustrate that access to quality services and support enables those with substance use and mental health issues, in addition to individuals with developmental disabilities, to recover and live more rewarding lives.”

Over fifty organizations from across Rhode Island were on site at the 2010 Rally for Recovery. More are expected at this year’s event.

Currently, plans are underway for the 2011 Rally for Recovery which will take place on Saturday, September 10, at the Roger Williams National Memorial Park on North Main Street in Providence. This year’s theme is “Recovery Benefits Everyone”. Guest speakers will include A. Kathryn Power, Director of the National Center for Mental Health Services (and former Director of the Rhode Island department known as MHRH) and Governor Lincoln Chafee.

National Recovery Month is an initiative of the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration’s (SAMHSA’s) Center for Substance Abuse Treatment (CSAT), within the Department of Health and Human Services. The goal of this initiative is to increase the understanding of behavioral health while reinforcing the message that prevention works, treatment is effective and people do recover.

-MORE-

About the Rhode Island Department of Behavioral Healthcare, Developmental Disabilities and Hospitals.

BHDDH is committed to assuring access to quality services and support for Rhode Islanders with developmental disabilities, mental health and substance abuse issues and chronic, long-term medical and psychiatric conditions. In addition to planning for the development of new services and prevention activities, the department's mission includes addressing the stigma attached to these disabilities.

About the Rhode Island Recovery Month Coalition

The Rhode Island Recovery Month Coalition strives to help improve the quality of life of individuals in recovery and highlight their accomplishments. The coalition includes treatment and recovery service providers, family members, and friends and advocates of recovery.

###